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reader to secure details on points which are still in controversy. The positive value of the work is undoubted. Rarely does a volume appear in the field of social science which discusses social relations with such breadth, sanity, and insight.

JAMES G. STEVENS.

SEX AND SOCIETY. By William I. Thomas. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. \$1.50.

This suggestive and stimulating volume by Professor Thomas gives us a new interpretation of the character and origin of some of our social institutions and occupational activities. It is an attempt to explain certain important facts of social life as originating in the physical, biological, and psychological differences between man and woman. The various chapters are disconnected in the character of their subject-matter—each chapter being a complete study—but “. . . the general thesis running through all of them is the same—that the differences in bodily habit between men and women, particularly the greater strength, restlessness, and motor aptitude of man, and the more stationary condition of woman, have had an important influence on social forms and activities, and on the character and mind of the two sexes” (Author’s Note).

The first chapter discusses the organic differences between the two sexes and develops the fundamental evidence upon which the remaining chapters are based. After this there is a series of studies regarding the factor and influence of sex in primitive morality, primitive industry, and primitive social control of sex and social feeling; the psychology of modesty and clothing; the adventitious character of woman; the mind of woman and the lower races.

In this work Professor Thomas has made the first attempt to develop a scientific unified theory regarding the influence of sex in social life and activity. While the basic evidence of the author’s theory is somewhat fragmentary and as yet incomplete, the inferences and deductions made are on the whole conservative. The last two chapters, on “The Adventitious Character of Woman” and “The Mind of Woman and the Lower

Races," are of peculiar value to the student who is analyzing the social position and influence of modern woman. The limitation which existing conventions and prejudices place upon woman and the social results of these limitations are described and analyzed.

The new view-point of recognizing sex as a fundamental factor in social life, and the development of a scientific theory of the influence of sex from that standpoint, make a suggestive contribution to scientific thought along these lines. The book is to be commended to all those who are interested in sex problems and sex relations.

JAMES G. STEVENS.

THE EVOLUTION OF LITERATURE. By A. S. Mackenzie. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company. Second Printing. 12mo, net \$1.50.

Professor Mackenzie, of the University of Kentucky, here puts forth in a popular-priced edition his manual of comparative literature, which was issued for the first time about four years ago. His attempt to approach the study of literature from the side of anthropology, as an essentially social phenomenon, involves wide reading and careful analysis and discrimination. There are chapters on the primitive literatures of Africa, Oceania, Asia, and America, and in the songs, dances, stories, and drawings, the author seeks to discover the germs of various types of literature. In traversing so wide a field it is inevitable that the author should occasionally draw hasty conclusions (as, for example, the suggestion that the negroes borrowed their animal tales from Indian prisoners of war); but on the whole the book is an interesting and valuable contribution to a phase of literary study which hitherto has received only fragmentary treatment.

LEGENDS OF OLD HONOLULU. By W. D. Westervelt. Boston: Press of George H. Ellis.

These legends have been compiled from stories told by old Hawaiians; some taken down from the lips of those still living, and others found in the files of newspapers published in the language of Hawaii. Though many of these tales are limited to